



## Private Wealth Legal Update

November 2020

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### COVID-19 pandemic highlights the benefit of having Lasting Powers of Attorney

Lasting Powers of Attorney hit the headlines twice in November 2020. Once when TV presenter Kate Garraway told of the financial difficulties she is experiencing following her husband's heartbreaking illness, and again when a 73 year old woman was arrested for removing her mother from care prior to the latest national lockdown

[Click here](#) to read more about the importance of having both types of LPA, regardless of age or health.



### HMRC looks to charge Capital Gains Tax on large rural garden

A married couple has defeated HMRC's demand for £162,000 in Capital Gains Tax following the sale of a house with a large garden. The entire



garden was deemed necessary for the reasonable enjoyment of the property and qualified for principal private residence relief.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

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## Solicitors prefer wet-ink signatures for Lasting Powers of Attorney

A recent survey of solicitors found continued support for requiring wet ink signatures when donors sign their Lasting Powers of Attorney. The Office of the Public Guardian found no shift in favour of adopting electronic signatures, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

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## Law Society Publishes Guidance on Video-witnessing Wills

The Law Society recommends “live-action video-links” for video-witnessing Wills and provides an example scenario. However, the practical benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic remain unclear.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

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## Hewitsons' Annual Mince Pie Event – Appeal for Christmas Donations to EVE

Our annual charity mince pie event, usually held at the start of December, will regrettably be cancelled this year due to ongoing COVID-19 precautions. We will, however, continue our appeal for donations to EVE, a Northamptonshire women’s refuge charity working hard to transform the lives of those affected by domestic abuse. Sadly, due to the pandemic, support is in even higher demand than usual.

Please [click here](#) for information on how to make a donation. To view one of the photos from last year’s event, showing Santa’s elves and part of the wonderful pile of presents you donated to EVE, please click the image to the side.

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